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JANUARY 8 - JANUARY 14, 2020

There is more to life than increasing its speed.
— Mahatma Gandhi

INSIDE-BOOSTER

Senior LIVING, page 8

AN INSIDE PUBLICATIONS NEWSPAPER

FREE

VOL. 116, NO. 2

NEWS OF LINCOLN PARK, LAKE VIEW, NORTH CENTER & LINCOLN SQUARE

insideonline.com

New advisory council tasked with serving as gatekeeper on Lincoln Yards redevelopment

Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot, Ald. Brian Hopkins [2nd] and developer Sterling Bay, have announced the formation of a Community Advisory Council (CAC) that will serve as a conduit and gatekeeper for community input as the \$6 billion Lincoln Yards mixed-use project moves forward along the North Branch of the Chicago River over the next three years.

The 14-member CAC will consist of neighborhood representatives, community leaders, design professionals, and subject-matter experts appointed by the mayor

and alderman. The group will meet at least quarterly starting in early 2020, making recommendations ranging from public infrastructure design to traffic control and open space, among other issues.

Working with the developer and the local aldermen, City Hall is now soliciting applications from community members to serve on the CAC. An application for CAC volunteers is available at www.chicago.gov/lincolnyards.

This CAC will be tasked with ensuring transparency by giving a

voice to residents and others impacted by the project. "This project and others like it must utilize inclusive development, create new jobs for our residents, and include public input at every step of the way," said Mayor Lightfoot. "With the help of this CAC, the City will ensure this project creates affordable housing, makes 21st-century transit-oriented improvements and connects our City's residents to shared resources."

The CAC's recommendations

LINCOLN YARDS see p. 16

Parking meters, ride share now cost more

Going downtown just got more expensive. Parking meter fees were boosted on Jan. 1 following a rate hike City Council approval earlier this year. The higher fee will add a 50¢ increase per hour in the downtown area.

Rates were also raised in the West Loop where motorists will see a rate increase from \$2 per hour to \$4.50 per hour to align with rates throughout the downtown area.

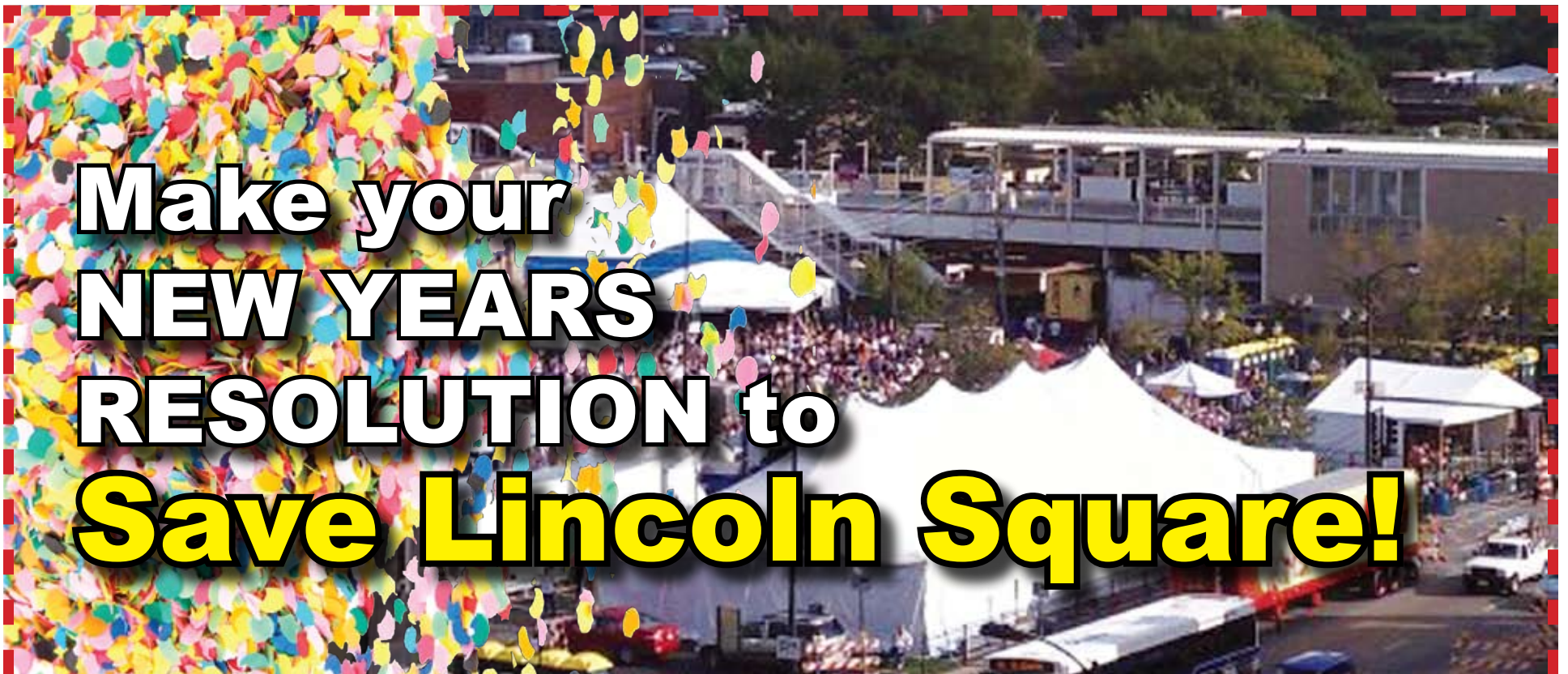
These increases are tied to higher taxes for ride-hailing services as well.

Late in 2008 Chicago sold its parking meters in an unpopular move by former Mayor Rich Da-

ley. Daley rushed a 75-year lease contract through a less-than-curious City Council, selling the parking business for \$1.15 billion to Chicago Parking Meters LLC, a venture that included Wall Street investment house Morgan Stanley, Alliance Capital Partners and the Abu Dhabi Investment Authority.

Chicago Parking Meters now operates and maintains street metered parking pay stations for the City's 36,000 metered parking spaces. Using a cellphone app, motorists can pay parking meter fees on their phones for an addi-

COST MORE see p. 16



City Hall may turn over the Public Parking Lot at 4715 N. Western to an out-of-state private developer for a 6-story residential development.



Popular Lincoln Square area retailers and institutions like the Old Town School of Folk Music, DANKHaus and Davis Theatre



Cultural institutions such as the Mayfest, German-American Festival, Applefest and Farmer's Market

This ad paid for by concerned Lincoln Square area neighbors, businesses and friends.

We need our parking!

Voice your concerns regarding this proposal to:

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4243 N. Lincoln Ave.
773-868-4747 info@aldermanmartin.com

Commissioner Maurice Cox
Dept. of Planning 312-744-9476

Mayor Lori Lightfoot 312-744-3300

That last century sure passed by quickly



By Thomas J. O'Gorman

TRANSITIONS: The passage of names, faces, pet peeves, smells, opinions, tricks, trends and styles is a whirlwind moment of human significance. That's what we celebrated as the ball dropped in Times Square, America's ugliest streetscape.

We hardly acknowledge the change of dates, even the decade, but we sure do all have experience of the change in styles, tempo, comfort zones and personal panache.

As I plug in my new computer into its orange external hard drive, I am caught for a moment thinking about the Great War, or World War I, to Americans (Europeans had already coined the carnage that name by the time the Yanks arrived).

Imagine, that was more than a century ago.

From the German Emperor and his shriveled arm, his poison gas, his lust for power, his hate for France, to me pushing in the power adapter on my Mac Book Pro, just 1200 months went by with 100 million deaths across the war-tortured earth.

Yes, of course the deaths should grease the skids for Kaiser Wilhelm's intimate intro to Satan. But even that can't fill the scope of falling dominoes that unleashed the full measure of doom and evil on the innocent in the world.

Whether you are Queen Victoria's grandson or not. It's not the first time having the world stage to command, and a debilitating psychotic handicap to go with it, boys with everything made a nothing out of the world.

From Bill Gates' Seattle garage days until my trim, lightweight laptop some 40 years; 440 months.

I want to check the data, the fresh stuff. The new and vibrant material that tells us of what we are capable.

Can we really soar through a system of as yet uninvented numbers? Can they rescue the commerce of the world from weakened values? Will they adapt shallow number tables to bigger systems of more valuable numeric possibilities?

What will fresh numbers reveal about us in this fresh decade of the 21st century beyond our weight and our age? Perhaps they will not retreat from the stone cold truth of weight or nutrition, but tell us more. Perhaps they can lift our heads as we walk. Exposing a wider, fuller human landscape than the face of an iPod?

Will they show us capable of more civility, more restless with injustice? Will they expose us as less willing to live with inequity? As people who insist that all Americans share in our national prosperity?

Maybe such generosity will permit the boundaries of our interests to include the nourishment of others with grander style and less note of expense. Maybe America will really discover new advancements in mathematical language.

Maybe we will discover some things that we let slip past us using the human language that's more emotional, rather than the high clinical-techno variety.

Maybe such new language will help us to discover new colors to lift our temperament and tone. Perhaps a swatch of cool colors that layer behavior and actions with mellowness and an old-fashioned kindness. The kind that invites people into ancient relationships of trust and length.

Perhaps this is just the thing to fill the fresh space of the new year with optimism, that mystic resource that permits the human

eye to see with the levelness of good sight and honest judgment.

Who knows what politics will emerge in the decade ahead? Who can conceive of their dirty tricks fake virtues, and venal wisdom? Perhaps we can reach into the reserve, when the measure of human goodness was often intertwined with our willingness to take a chance on the tumble of the universe and the values which we knew best. Faith. Hope. Love. Courage. Sacrifice. Mercy. Loyalty and Peace. The powers of such virtues are divine. They carry the full capacity to recreate time. Refashion hearts and see at work the hands of he who first hung the heavens.

"Gentle breath of yours my sails must fill, which was to please. Now I want spirits to enforce, art to enchant..."

— Prospero, "The Tempest, Epilogue"

Pied Beauty

By Gerald Manley Hopkins

Glory be to God
for dappled things –
For skies of couple-colour
as a brinded cow;
For rose-moles all in stipple
upon trout that swim;
Fresh-firecoal chestnut-falls;
finches' wings;
Landscape plotted and pieced –
fold, fallow, and plough;
And all trades, their gear and
tackle and trim.

All things counter, original,
spare, strange;
Whatever is fickle, freckled
(who knows how?)
With swift, slow; sweet, sour;
adazzle, dim;
He fathers-forth whose beauty
is past change:
Praise him.

REQUIESCAT IN PACEM:

The earth was more lyrical and elegant because these souls made the journey with us. Others lifted us to the edge of our seats by their valor, commitment and intelligence. Fashion, law, charity, music, comedy, sports and architecture by their love and devotion. They left a deep imprint on the planet and its people: **Karl Lagerfeld, Isabel Toledo, Doris Day, Emanuel Ungaro, Toni Morrison, Gloria Vanderbilt, Lee Radziwill, Hal Prince, Diahann Carroll, Elijah Cummins, former Associate Justice Stevens, John Singleton, Cokie Roberts,**

Valerie Harper, I.M. Pei, Tim Conway, Harry Herman, Bernice Gorsman, Peggy Lipton, Robert C. Christie Hunter, Ken Nordine and Max Azria.

MR. TROLLEY: The Chicago operators of the amusement vehicle Mr. Trolley have announced that they can no longer operate in



Mr. Trolley

the 606 zip code. The old-fashioned trollies of over-served professionals were often seen parked in front of celebrity Chicago bars on their mission to visit as many famed venues as possible. Weddings, Bulls games, golf outings, showers and birthday bashes were favored attractions of Mr. Trolley.

TIDBIT: U.S. Route 66 begins in Chicago at Lou Mitchell's front door on Jackson Blvd. and goes all the way to Santa Monica Blvd. Drive to Congress and head west a bit over 2000 miles. Stop for the sightseeing and coffee along the way.

HOME RUN: B.I.G Baseball academy is hosting their annual fundraiser 6 p.m. Thursday at the Chicago Sports Museum, 7th floor of Water Tower Place. A fundraiser for all ages, stop in with a Little Leaguer in tow if you have a chance, they always have a great offering of sporting memorabilia in the silent auction.

TIDBITS: Can it be possible? Gilligan's Island premiered 55 years ago on CBS?

VALE ET PAX: This column mourns the passing of **Clarissa Haffner Chandler**, 93. A graduate of Lake Forest Country Day School, the Masters School and Vassar, she was the daughter of **Charles C., Jr. and Clarissa Donnelly Chandler**, of Chicago's printing titans. Sister of the popular, late, **Charles C. Haffner III**. A member of the Friday Club and board member of Ragdale (the writer's studio), she was a passionate advocate of progressive education. A memorial is planned. **Laura, Edward and Phoebe** survive her.

FAIR PLAY: Well-known city attorney gets a dog. Mid-size. Masculine. Well-groomed. Something dog ladies can oogle over during a walk. Owner's swanky dog-lov-

ing neighbors were first charmed. But dog seemed unfriendly. Word leaked it was because the pooch was abused. This has had folk crazy until owner was seen all bandaged after a Northwestern visit over a dog bite and discovery of abuse. ARDC wants distance. On the QT there are formal binding conditions for silence. First, the dog goes to an aunt's convent. Amen.

ELECTION NEWS:

This column hopes that over the past months you've come to acquaint yourselves with Chicago attorney **Dan Balanoff** running for a judgeship in the 8th judicial sub-circuit. Each week we hoped to pass on a solid,

rational, intelligent thought about the candidate so that you could carry some actual content to the polling booth on March 17. Well, 2020 is here. Now Dan Balaoff is on the ballot. More Chicagoans are aware of his credentials and skills, so things are looking up. Dan's campaign will continue as a featured part of the column. The clock ticks away.

WHO'S WHERE? **Nikki Friar** will be busy at Marchesa but so pleased to have her mom, **Jan McAdam** here in Chi-town... **Jim Kinney** and **Brian White** hit their haunts in stunning Palm Beach over New Years. Fab and chic **Peggy Snorf** and **Juli Harran** right with them... the **Dooleys** keeping snug at Malibu Farms, CA... **Jeffrey Banks** and his culinary gang getting supreme scallops and crunchy bread in Andover, NJ... of course **Stephanie**

QUICKLY see p. 12

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Ending the year on a sad note

Brucie and Rose Mandel -- to know them was to love them

I never thought I'd be one of those people with dog hair sticking to their clothes nor was I ever semi-OK with being one, until I met Brucie. Honestly, the last thing I wanted was another dog -- and its fur -- when I got a text message



Heart of the 'Hood By Felicia Dechter

There were no words, just a picture of the most adorable puppy I'd ever seen, even to this day. His name was Bruce. He was a four-and-half month-old, caramel and white-colored English bulldog, and his owners could no longer keep him.

My daughter knew I didn't want a new dog. The October before that, we'd had to put down our pretty much non-shedding 14-year-old Boston terrier, Mick, who became severely ill with congestive heart failure. It was just too hard and heart-wrenching owning a dog. I didn't want to go through the heartache again. Not yet, anyway.

Well, turns out Bruce, or "Brucie" as I called him, ended up moving on in. He was just too precious to resist. Andie's now ex-boyfriend got him for her and Brucie quickly and fabulously fit right into our family. We had a new granddaughter, Jordan, and now a new pup, and the two became fast friends, so of course Bruce wriggled his way into our hearts. He was so good with Jordan that he was impossible not to fall in love with. And besides that, he was just so darn cute... shedding hair and all.

He was stubborn, as bulldogs usually are, and he could be quite the brat. But he was also loyal, loving, protective, and totally lovable. He quickly became a member of our household.

And you know how bulldogs can be downright homely sometimes? Not our Brucie. He was really a handsome guy.

And as we had more grandchildren, Brucie's behavior was always warm and affectionate. They loved him and he loved them. It was actually something magical to watch as he formed relationships with all four of them. I think about all the time he spent laying with them and being happy just to be one of the kids.

The thought makes me smile and cry at the same time.

That's because a couple of months ago, our boy Brucie started acting very strangely. He became aggressive. He was disoriented, and started staring into corners and peeing in the house, which he had never done before. He was weak. We took him to his vet and were told he had a double ear, double eye infection.

Brucie went back to the vet

from my daughter, Andie, Memorial Day weekend 2013.

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adorable puppy I'd ever seen, even to this day. His name was Bruce. He was a four-and-half month-old, caramel and white-colored English bulldog, and his owners could no longer keep him.

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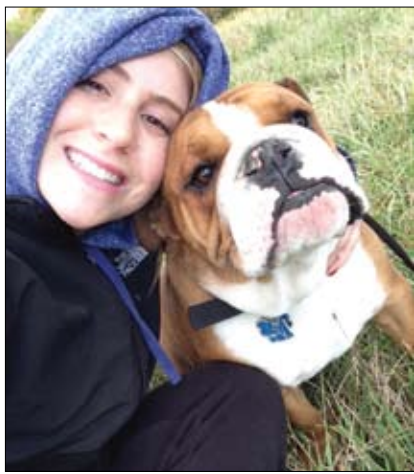
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(Left) My daughter, Andie, playing with Bruce. (Center) It was this photo of Brucie as a puppy that captured this columnist's heart and landed the dog a new home. (Right) A celebration of life will be held tonight, Jan. 8, for Sandburg Village resident Rose Mandel. Photo courtesy Rose Mandel collection

a week later as he was still not right. We were told to continue his medicine. After a few days, he seemed to be feeling better, which we could tell by the fact that he was able to jump up to his favorite place -- the couch -- once again, to snuggle with us.

Meanwhile, it was a week before Christmas and suddenly, every joint in my body was on fire. Influenza B. I spent a full day in bed and Brucie never left my side. If I went to the bathroom even, he came with.

That evening however, Brucie collapsed. It was the middle of the night, and my husband and daughter rushed him to an emergency vet in Skokie. The next morning when they picked him up, he was completely out of it. Brucie needed further testing and so we took him to a place I cannot rave enough about, MedVet, 3325 N. California Ave.

In August, MedVet moved from its former Clybourn Ave. location and it's a state-of-the-art emergency and specialty veterinary hospital, with its own cancer center. The people who work there understand how much we love our pets. (A special shout out to the fantastic night nurse, Robert, who took amazing care of Brucie. As did everyone.)

Brucie spent several days in the Intensive Care Unit, where we were able to visit and lay with him. As we cried, the folks at MedVet were unbelievably compassionate and extremely caring.

An MRI showed that Brucie had an inoperable brain tumor. Cancer had once again invaded our family. We were in shock, devastated. My daughter had a total meltdown and my hubby wasn't much better.

In the meantime, Brucie was fading.

It was two days before Christmas. We brought Brucie home, with the intent of taking him back after the holiday to be euthanized. We wanted to give him some special love and have a little more time with him. We turned our living room into a makeshift hospital room. Our hearts were broken that our precious Brucie, who would have turned seven on Jan. 11, had to be leaving our family.

Although glad to be home, Brucie was agitated and a new symptom of brain cancer in dogs started appearing, he began walking in circles. The tumor was on the brain's right side, and we

could also tell that his left side was weakening and his left front paw was not functioning well.

It was the saddest night. By morning, it was decided that the best thing for Brucie would be to go back to MedVet at some point that day for him to be put down. It was Christmas Eve.

My kids and my granddaughters came to say good-bye. My hubby, daughter and I cried the whole ride back to MetVet. We were told to take as much time with Brucie as we needed. When we were ready, the vet came in and first administered a sedative so Brucie would sleep. My daughter and I then left the room as the vet gave Brucie the drug that would stop his heart. My husband and the ex-boyfriend who had given Brucie to my daughter stayed.

It was a sad Christmas but we're all getting along and hoping that 2020 has good things in store for us.

I hope the same for all of you. Here's wishing us all a happy, healthy new year.

Hopefully Brucie is crossing the rainbow bridge right now, happily romping with some new friends. And there's probably an angel scurrying after him, broom in hand, sweeping up all of his always-shedding, soft fur.

The sweetest Rose ever... we send our sincerest condolences to the family and friends of Rose Mandel, who died on Dec. 29. The beloved "Diva Gurl," fashion producer, and "director of the catwalk," leaves behind the brother she adored, Harvey Mandel, as well as hundreds of friends.

Rose (Rosie) was a longtime resident of Sandburg Village living there for more than 30 years, said her dear friend, Lynn Orman Weiss.

"Her imprint on the fashion world could be seen all around Chicago from creating extravagant Next Level Chicago runway fashion shows to her legendary Catwalk Clinics," said Orman Weiss. "She was a passionate philanthropist who created events that sparkled and featured up-and-coming fashion designers and models, often raising funds and awareness for charities like the Anti-Cruelty Society and AIDS. Her Diva Gurl line of jewelry became the go-to stop for many looking to enhance their evening wear and is still located at Parto Naderi on Wells St."

Her longtime collaborators,

Marco Foster and friends including, BJ Murray, Melissa Hovey, Julia Jacobs, Carmen Rivera will celebrate her life from 6 to 8 p.m. this Wednesday at Clutch Bar, 316 W. Erie St. Info will be on Rose

Mandel's Facebook page., Orman Weiss said.

"Raise a glass, make a toast to Chicago's Diva Gurl, Rose Mandel, on Wednesday night," said Orman Weiss.

Rose's service at Shalom Memorial Park last Sunday brought together style makers, media folks, Jeff Conway and Whitney Reynolds and good friends from Niles North High School, reported Orman Weiss. Shari Duffy, Julia Jacobs, Jack Carlson, Allen Winkler and Orman Weiss gave passionate and funny speeches honoring her short, but well lived life.

"Yesterday was the most beautiful event," said Orman Weiss. "She was a prima ballerina and Chicago's prima fashion show producer and director. She lived her life blessed by so many."



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Dangerous waters

Dangers of rising lake level explored in exhibit at Edgewater History Museum

The recent dramatic rise in the level of Lake Michigan is posing a serious – though not unprecedented threat – to property on Chicago's lake front.

A new exhibit at the Edgewater History Museum, 5358 N. Ashland Ave., – “High Water and Hell: Rise in Lake Level Puts Chicago on Edge” – examines how the previous record high lake levels in the late 1980s severely battered the City and caused extensive damage to Chicago's lake-front communities.

The exhibit, opening Jan. 11, draws on news stories, maps, photographs, first-hand accounts, and a plethora of studies to show how the City struggled to cope with lake flooding and permanently bolster Chicago's shoreline defenses.

“High Water and Hell” explores how the city responded to the crisis of the 1980s and how a variety of citizen task forces proposed lasting solutions to prevent future catastrophic flooding, though very few of those recommenda-

tions were ever executed.

“This exhibit was prompted by the very real crisis currently facing Edgewater and all the communities on Chicago's lake front,” said John Holden, a board member for the museum and curator of the exhibit. “The exhibit is based on the extensive archives and recollections of a number of the leading community members who tried to help Chicago avoid a repeat of the catastrophes of the 1980s. Hopefully, this exhibit will increase community awareness of the problem we face and foster community dialog on how to find a lasting solution.”

“High Water and Hell” also examines the science of what makes the levels of the Great Lakes fluctuate so dramatically, as well as how Chicago extensively rebuilt more than eight miles of City shoreline over the past 30 years.

The Edgewater History Museum is free and open to the public every Saturday and Sunday afternoon from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

\$10K cap on state and local tax deductions in play in Congress

Luxury home sales in Chicago's lakefront neighborhoods and along the North Shore took a hit in 2018 and 2019, and experts say part of the downturn was caused by President Trump's tax reforms.

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 (TCJA) slapped a \$10,000 maximum deduction cap on state and local taxes, including real estate taxes. So, if you owned a luxury home with a \$20,000 real estate tax bill, the maximum tax deduction you could take for it is \$10,000.

“Realtors say loss of the perk for a home seller or buyer to deduct the full amount of the tax bill has negatively impacted the sales of homes priced at \$400,000-plus,” said Sara E. Benson, president of Benson Stanley Realty in Chicago.

For states like Illinois with high income and/or property taxes, the \$10,000 limit on state and local taxes, called the SALT deduction, has been politically challenging. Republicans have generally defended the TCJA's limitations while the SALT cap has been a political target of Democrats and real estate industry lobbyists.

The National Assoc. of Realtors and National Assoc. of Home Builders have lobbied heavily against capping state and local taxes at \$10,000.

In Dec. 2019, the U.S. House of Representatives approved the Restoring Tax Fairness for States and Locality Act (HR 5377), which would temporarily lift the \$10,000 maximum deduction cap. The vote of 218 to 206 was along party lines.

The U.S. Senate is not expected to take up the bill, and the White House has threatened to veto it.

In its Statement of Administration Policy, the White House explained it opposes the new bill because “the legislation would unfairly force all federal taxpayers to subsidize a tax break for the wealthy, as well as excessive government spending by fiscally irresponsible states.”

A last-minute amendment prior to passage in the House would re-



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tain the \$10,000 SALT deduction cap for wealthy taxpayers with income in excess of \$100 million.

As part of tax reform, the TCJA of 2017 lowered marginal tax rates, increased the standard deduction, and largely eliminated the Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT). It also made changes to itemized deductions, including lowering the mortgage interest-deduction cap and limiting to \$10,000 the maximum deduction taxpayers may claim for state and local taxes.

The SALT deduction allows itemizing taxpayers to deduct from their taxable income the property taxes paid as well as either state and local income or sales taxes. Prior to TCJA, taxpayers could generally claim an unlimited SALT deduction.

The new Restoring Tax Fairness for States and Localities Act would make the following changes:

- For 2019, the SALT limit would be doubled for couples to \$20,000. Singles would continue to have a \$10,000 cap.
- For 2020 and 2021, the SALT cap would be eliminated for all taxpayers.
- For 2022-2025, the SALT cap would return to \$10,000. Under TCJA, the SALT cap (along with many other provisions) will expire after 2025.

To offset the revenue loss, starting in 2020, the legislation would increase the top tax rate to 39.6% from its current 37%. In addition, it would restore the lower pre-

TCJA bracket thresholds for the 39.6% rate, making more income subject to the higher tax rate.

Because the top tax-rate increase and bracket threshold changes are made permanent under the bill, and the SALT relief is temporary, the Committee on Joint Taxation estimates this bill will raise \$6.2 billion in revenue over 10 years.

Freddie loan limit now \$510,400

In 2020, the maximum loan limit for conforming Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae mortgages will increase to \$510,400 from \$484,350 for single-family properties, reported the Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA).

The loan limited will rise 5.38% in 2020 because the FHFA has determined that the average U.S. home value increased by that amount between the third quarters of 2018 and 2019.

FHA loan limit now \$331,760

In 2020, the Federal Housing Administration loan limit for single-family homes will increase to \$331,760 from \$314,827. The FHA loan limit for 2-flats now is \$424,800, while the limit for 3-flats is \$513,450, and \$638,100 for 4-flats.

For more housing news, visit www.dondebat.biz. Don DeBat is co-author of “Escaping Condo Jail,” the ultimate survival guide for condominium living. Visit www.escapingcondojail.com.

The Home Front By Don DeBat



Elder Justice Center seminars

The Circuit Court of Cook County Elder Justice Center is hosting free senior enrichment seminars.

All events take place at Richard J. Daley Center, 50 W. Washington St., Courtroom 2005.

Planning for the Future Part I: Estate Planning; Powers of Attorney and Advance Directives will be held Thursday, Jan. 9, from noon to 1:30 p.m.

Topics will include Power of Attorney for Health Care, Power

of Attorney for Property, Illinois Living Will declarations, Do Not Resuscitate order/POLST, and the Healthcare Surrogate Act. The speaker will be Claire McFarland, Executive Director of Elder Law & Wellness Initiative.

Then on Thursday, Jan. 23, from noon – 1:30 p.m., planning for the Future Part II will cover decedent's estates; Transfer of Death Instrument (TODI); Small Estate Affidavits, collection of decedent's assets, paying decedent's debts and taxes and transfer of property. Speakers will be Hon. James Patrick Murphy, Probate Division, Circuit Court of Cook County; there will also be a staff attorney from Metropolitan Family Services/Legal Aid Society

To register, call 312-603-9233.

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Changes to the Senior Rebate and Condo Refuse Rebate Program

Seniors who are used to receiving letters in the mail for the renewal of their \$50 rebate for the city's Senior Citizen Sewer Bill Rebate Program should note that management of this program will be moving from the City Council Committee on Finance to the Dept. of Finance - Utility Billing & Customer Service.

This change, approved by Finance Chairman Scott Waguespack and Mayor Lori Lightfoot, means there will be

a new procedure in 2020 for seniors to participate in the program. Procedures for processing first time senior sewer claims for approval, as well as renewal notifications sent to eligible seniors, will be announced by the Dept. of Finance soon.

People 65 years of age or older who own and occupy as their principal place of residence, a townhouse, condominium unit or cooperative apartment that shares a common water bill are eligible

for a \$50 annual refund. This is separate from the Senior Sewer Exemption for single family home owners.

Pursuant to the previous Municipal Code, condominiums were eligible for a rebate of a portion of their refuse removal costs. The last year for rebate applications was 2015. The City continues to work through the backlog of reimbursing eligible condo associations. For more information call 311.

Request for documents denied by City for Lincoln Square housing project

City Hall has denied a Freedom of Information Act [FOIA] request from this newspaper to share any of the public documents related to a proposed affordable housing project to be built on a city-owned parking lot at 4715 N. Western Ave.

In a Dec. 30 response to our FOIA application, the Chicago Dept. of Planning and Development [DPD] stated that, "Regarding the application for zoning changes, letters, notes and metered public parking documents, (DPD) was unable to locate the documents which would be responsive to your FOIA request."

Regarding our demands for public documents regarding potential tax credits to be given to the proposed developer, the city responded that "In regards to the LIHTC round for tax credit, the application is still under review. We have withheld certain material pursuant to Section 7(1)(f) of FOIA." The city is claiming that the documents they have are "preliminary drafts" and as such are exempted from being released to the public.

In their letter the DPD also said that our request was "unduly burdensome for the complying public body and there is no way to narrow the request and the burden

on the public body outweighs the public interest in the information." This newspaper has since narrowed the scope of its document request and resubmitted a second FOIA request for release of the public documents.

Ald. Matt Martin's [47th] office late last year said that the City would be making a decision in early 2020 about offering the proposed tax credits needed for the developers to make this project viable, so time is short for the document release if the general public is to know what the city is considering prior to City Hall officials making a final determination.

While meetings and communications have been held between the developers, City Hall, Ald. Martin's office and some as yet unnamed select few community groups, there has been no public meeting held to inform the general public of what may be coming to the site, and what tax-payer city sweeteners may be offered to underwrite the effort.

That has left Lincoln Square-area retailers, residents and nearby property owners mostly guessing about the largely unknown fate of the public parking lot that has served the many retailers and cultural institutions in the area for

over 50 years as a critical piece of infrastructure.

An awareness campaign was undertaken last December by several area retailers and property owners after rumors of the risk of losing the parking lot were made known - not by any public notification by the local alderman or City Hall, but by a leak shared in a Lincoln Square-area bar.

According to Ald. Martin, this proposed development will need to be allocated Low Income Housing Tax Credits from the city in order to proceed. The project is being proposed by Boston-based The Community Builders [TCB]. TCB owns or manages over 13,000 apartments in 14 states plus the District of Columbia.

TCB is currently applying for these tax credits. If the tax credits are allocated, Ald. Martins says that TCB will still have to go through the office's regular development process with more thorough community outreach and consultation. They also say that no other local or national real estate developers have been approached about buying the site.

And in light of changes now underway at City Hall, it is unclear if local aldermen even have the ability to green light - or kill off - development projects in their

wards. Mayor Lori Lightfoot has made her intentions clear that she plans to wield the power to make such decision in consultation with her own executive staff.

During a Nov. 5 speech to the Better Government Assoc., Mayor Lightfoot denounced the practice of aldermanic prerogative, calling it "a tool that for generations had been used by the powerful to build a system that excludes, disinvests and isolates working people." Stopping this practice was one of her campaign pledges. In the case of this proposed affordable housing project, it may be that Ald. Martin may not have as much authority to influence this decision as former aldermen who enjoyed the aldermanic prerogative.

It's likely the Mayor's Office is now the main force in deciding whether or not to build the new six-story, 43-unit affordable housing project on the city-owned parking lot adjacent to the CTA's Western Ave. Brown Line station.

Back on June 27, the Lightfoot administration said it would no longer require letters of support from aldermen on a host of community issues ranging from the location of Divvy stations to the

REQUEST see p. 6

North Side dispensaries report smooth rollout of legalized pot

You may soon buy weed on Weed St.

BY PETER HANCOCK
Capitol News Illinois

Clark St. in Wrigleyville and Andersonville was backed up with traffic similar to that seen during a Cubs sell out weekend. The foot traffic on the street reminded some retailers of what is experienced on Michigan Ave. during holiday sales season. And the long lines of people that ran down the block and wrapped around corners made one think that tickets were on sale for the Beatles reunion concert.

But the street scene was all a result of the first day of legal sales of recreational marijuana in Illinois that from all reports went "extraordinarily well." One industry representative said that total sales on Jan. 1 topped \$3.1 million.

"I just cannot express the gratitude from the dispensary operators to our customers about their courtesy and civility and patience. It was really a lovely, very successful rollout, I think, on the first day," Pamela Althoff, executive director of the Cannabis Business Assoc. of Illinois, said in an interview Thursday.

On New Year's Day, Illinois became the 11th state to allow legal sales of recreational marijuana to adults. As the clock ticked down to midnight on New Year's Eve, many dispensaries were report-

ing long lines outside their stores, in some cases stretching around their block.

In Wrigleyville, Sunnyside Dispensary, 3812 N. Clark St., [formerly MedMar] actually sold \$250 gold tickets, Willie Wonka-style, giving 25 people that chance to be first in line on Jan. 1. Meanwhile, lines there were still wrapping around the corner on Grace St. in the darkness late on Jan 2.

At Dispensary 33, 5001 N. Clark St., the customers stood in a line that lead south to St. Boniface Cemetery.

Meanwhile, while there is a medical marijuana dispensary in Rogers Park - GreenGate at 7305 N. Rogers Ave. - the community it seems will not get a legal, over the counter retail recreational pot dispensary anytime soon.

According to the Illinois Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act (ICRTA), the law legalizing recreational marijuana, parts of the state were designated Disproportionately Impacted Areas (DIA) — communities historically impacted by the criminalization of marijuana. Parts of Rogers Park — between Howard St. and Touhy Ave. and between Pratt Blvd. and Devon Ave. — are designated DIAs.

Dispensaries with owners or employees who live in these areas or have been arrested for cannabis-related crimes are called social equity applicants and qualify for extra benefits, including tech-

nical support and reduced fees for licensure, according to the website. Social equity applicants only pay \$2,500 to apply and \$30,000 for the license. But despite the incentives, there has been a low turnout for social equity applicants.

While there were a few dispensaries ready and able to sell pot on Jan. 1, other hopeful sellers are now rallying to open additional stores on the North Side. There are even rumors that a weed shop may be coming to Weed Street in Lincoln Park. Of course.

State records show that six companies have already submitted a total of 20 locations for the next 13 dispensaries set to open citywide, although some companies seem to have filed multiple addresses in case one or more of their proposed locations get rejected. These new shops will be standalone dispensaries where licenses aren't contingent on them selling medical marijuana.

The much-anticipated event was made possible by passage of a new law during the 2019 legislative session, the Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act, which legalized the sale, possession and use of marijuana for people 21 and older.

Former state Sen. Toi Hutchinson, an architect of that law who now serves as Gov. J.B. Pritzker's senior advisor for cannabis control, said that dispensaries across

ROLLOUT see p. 15

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Uptown's 'hospital of horrors'

Feds OK to end funding for Lakeshore psychiatric hospital accused of abuse; new abuse lawsuit also filed

BY SCOTT HOLLAND
Cook County Record

A federal judge has said Aurora Lakeshore Hospital can't challenge a federal government decision ending the Uptown-area hospital's Medicare and Medicaid funding.

Now, facing a shut off of government funds, the hospital struggles to remain open.

On Dec. 21, 2018, U.S. District Judge Sharon Johnson Coleman had granted Aurora Lakeshore's requests for a temporary injunction and restraining order against the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services [CMS], which cut off federal funding following reports of "rampant" patient abuse. But on Dec. 19, 2019, Coleman issued an order vacating her earlier order and terminating the hospital's civil litigation.

In December, hospital officials told Judge Johnson that they would "undoubtedly close" without access to federal funding, because the vast majority of their patients receive Medicare and Medicaid benefits.

The 160-bed hospital at 4840 Marine Dr. provides psychiatric care for children, treating about 5,000 patients every year. Most of the children are covered by Medicare and Medicaid, according to court papers. The Illinois Dept. of Public Health [IDPH] said it inspected the facility four times in the Summer and Fall of 2018, alleging Aurora failed to protect patients from sexual and physical abuse, didn't report and track allegations patients were sexually abused and failed to hospitalize

a patient after the patient complained of such abuse.

CMS gave Aurora the opportunity to furnish a plan to rectify the shortcomings IDPH identified after its first and third inspections, but CMS rejected Aurora's final proposal and on Dec. 15, 2018, said it was terminating the provider agreement.

When asking Coleman to grant the injunction, Aurora argued the government didn't give it enough time to correct the problems. Although she largely agreed with that position last year, her Dec. 2019 opinion made it clear "CMS is not required to allow a provider to correct deficiencies" for the type of noncompliance cited in the funding decision, such as when "noncompliance immediately jeopardizes patient health and safety."

CMS further pointed out Aurora completed an administrative hearing, which the agency said constitutes sufficient due process. Coleman said Aurora Lakeshore can appeal an administrative law judge's decision to a Departmental Appeals Board. Further, she cited a Nov. 26, 2019, administrative law judge finding that Aurora Lakeshore was noncompliant with certain Medicare participation and patient's rights conditions as of Nov. 21, 2018, providing a proper legal basis for ending the provider agreement.

"In discussing Aurora's failure to timely and fully investigate allegations of abuse," Coleman wrote, "the ALJ stated 'Aurora had no interest in bettering itself by improving its processes to better protect its patients.' In relation to Aurora's patients, the ALJ

concluded 'these are some of the most vulnerable people in our society and Aurora has shown it is not up to the task of keeping these children safe.'"

The ruling comes days after Aurora Lakeshore was accused in a separate legal action of allowing staff and others at the facility to turn it into a "hospital of horrors" for minor children patients subjected to years of alleged sexual abuse and other forms of abuse.

On Dec. 18, the Cook County Public Guardian filed a federal lawsuit on behalf of seven children, alleging they were victims of that abuse. That suit also said the Illinois Dept. of Children and Family Services [DCFS] covered up the children's plight because it had nowhere else to place them.

Government regulators ruled the deficiencies were so serious that they constituted an imminent threat to patient health and safety. Following the Nov. 2018 inspection, federal authorities terminated the's funding, effective Dec. 23. although the federal government will continue to pay for care for patients already admitted to the hospital for another month.

In addition, state public health officials said they anticipate initiating an administrative proceeding to revoke the hospital's state license imminently, citing the hospital's continued failure to comply with regulations.

"DCFS had worn out its welcome at other Chicagoland psychiatric hospitals due to the state of Illinois' failure to make timely payments to vendors," Public Guardian Charles Golbert said in the lawsuit, "and DCFS' historic inability to place children in a less restrictive setting once they completed their psychiatric treatment." He alleges DCFS knew the

hospital had a history of problems but turned a blind eye because of a shortage of other available facilities willing to accept DCFS children and teens.

The complaint said some of the children represented were as young as seven when they "were subjected to or witnessed unspeakable acts of sexual abuse by staff and peers" while also being "forced to live under the constant threat of involuntary sedation at the hands of vindictive, mean-spirited and improperly trained staff that, in some instances, should never have been allowed to work with or near children."

Even more shocking is that "DCFS knew about all the problems and all the abuses at this hospital of horrors," Golbert said at a news conference at the civil rights law firm Loevy & Loevy, which filed the lawsuit on his behalf. "DCFS did nothing to protect the children. ... Only after a public outcry and also the federal government's (threats) to stop funding did DCFS stop using this psychiatric hospital. Unfortunately, it was already too late for the children who are the plaintiffs in this lawsuit."

Lakeshore CEO Patricia McClure-Chessier characterized the lawsuit as an "egregious distortion" and said the hospital has worked diligently to correct past problems amid dramatic cuts to funding and other resources. According to the Chicago Tribune, the current DCFS administration sought to distance itself from the Lakeshore Hospital scandal, noting it no longer places children in the facility and has added 300 staff members to address systemic agency problems since receiving an 11% budget increase this year.



WANTED

Man wanted for criminal sexual assault

BY CWBCHICAO

On Dec. 29, 2019, at 8:10 p.m., a 29-year-old female was assaulted when she answered her door at her residence located in the 4200 block of N. Francisco. When the woman opened her front door an unknown white or Hispanic male was holding a package posing as a delivery driver.

The female permitted the man to enter the location to deliver the package. The unknown offender then grabbed and sexually assaulted the female victim. The female victim was able to fight off the offender and the offender fled the location.

The offender was described as a white or Hispanic male, 30-45 years old, black hair with a mustache, clean shaven, wearing a black zip up jacket, grey cargo pants and red gym shoes.



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REQUEST from p. 5

construction of off-site units to fulfill the city's affordable housing rules. Those letters of support used to be all it took to approve - or stop - a variety of proposals that used to begin and end at the local alderman's office. The mayor now wants those decisions to be based on plans crafted by city departments and vetted by her office.

Among others, decisions now

being taken away from local aldermen include landmark designations, landmark permit fee waivers, Class L property tax breaks, Tax-Increment Financing district designations and redevelopment agreements, demolition applications, the placement of new Divvy bike stations, Plan Commission action, land sales and the lease of city property, outdoor special event permitting, redevelopment agreements and intergovernmental agreements, Small Business

Improvement Fund and Opportunity Fund grants, the disposition of Tax-Increment Financing [TIF] districts, Special Service Area appointments and budgets, and in Lincoln Square's case, permission to build off-site units to fulfill the Affordable Housing Requirements Ordinance.

In mid November some Lincoln Square-area retailers, property owners and neighbors approached this newspaper saying that they are concerned about the project, and they have undertaken an effort to oppose the loss of the open space the parking lot provides. They fear that putting a building at this site could jeopardize several large cultural events that are held on this lot, or nearby, and depend on this lot for event space, logistics and/or event parking. Those events include the annual German American Festival, The Mayfest, The Applefest and weekly farmers markets.

Lincoln Square area businesses are also very dependent on the public parking lot to help support the area's popular retailers and institutions such as the Old Town School of Folk Music, Davis Theater, and DANKHaus German American Cultural Center.

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(Left) Sister Maria Francis (left) of St. Mary's Home goes out almost every day begging for donations and help in serving the North Side's needy. (Right) Members of the Lakeview Kiwanis Club gather with Sister Maria Francis of St. Mary's Home in Lincoln Park following her talk.

Senior housing construction underway in Ravenswood

Activity is picking up at the old site of Ravenswood Hospital, 4501 N. Winchester, now that construction crews began work on a new \$81 million senior housing project.

The long-delayed project comes long after the hospital's controversial closing in 2002. Ravenswood Hospital was founded in 1907 and once included residence housing for nursing school students.

Another part of the site was taken over by Lycée Français to build a new \$35 million, 3.8-acre school for its students.

Next up is Evergreen Real Estate who hopes to turn the vacant 10-story hospital into 119 supportive living apartments and 74 independent living apartments.

But after the hospital was sold to Advocate Health it was closed down, and many of the structures on the site remained vacant and fell into disrepair.

Evergreen announced plans in 2016 to redevelop the vacant building but needed a state law changed in order to move forward with having the supportive living and independent housing exist in the same building. The law was changed in 2018.

Little Sisters providing charity care since 1839

BY PATRICK BUTLER

Missionaries usually come from the Western World to help in places like the South Pacific, but Sister Maria Francis at St. Mary's Home, 2325 N. Lakewood Ave., has always done things a little differently.

Born in Samoa, she ended up in the U.S. – and in the Little Sisters of the Poor.

She was playing volleyball with her classmates as a child just when the late Pope Paul IV happened to be walking by during a papal visit to Australia and New Zealand.

"He asked us what we planned to do with our lives, then suggested we consider becoming missionaries," Sr. Maria recounted during a recent Lake View Kiwanis Club luncheon at Ann Sather's restaurant, 909 W. Belmont Ave.

Sr. Maria took the invitation seriously. After all, she said, "I was invited by the Pope himself. I heard the call from the Pope."

Fast forward a few years and Sr. Maria found herself in another unlikely situation – literally begging on the streets of Chicago.

You'll find Sr. Maria out in the neighborhoods almost every morning literally begging for food and money and any other needed supplies that come her way.

According to Martin Glynn, the Little Sisters' fundraiser, you'll find Sr. Maria out in the neighborhoods almost every morning literally begging for food and money and any other needed supplies that come her way.

If you've ever found yourself doubting the existence of kind and generous people, you may want to spend a day with one of the begging Sisters. They spend each day traveling the area asking for donations of money, food, and supplies for their residents. Their food and supply costs for the home are very low because of the outpouring of gifts they receive from business owners and hundreds of individuals who give to special collections at area parishes.

It's an integral part of the Little Sisters' tradition of "relying on God's providence" started by St. Jeanne Jugan back in France in 1839, Glynn said, adding that the Order doesn't believe in endowments of any kind. "Any money that comes in is used that year.

They don't want to sit on money because they believe that wouldn't be living on God's providence."

"I don't know how she does it, going out early in the morning," Glynn said, adding that despite the effort, "we still have to rely on other benefactors to meet the \$6 million annual budget. We rely on private donations for half of our expenses each year."

U.S. News & World Report in late October of 2019 released its best Nursing Home rankings and Little Sisters of the Poor St. Mary's Home has been recognized as one of the top performing nursing homes not only in Illinois but in the country. The 50 apartments for the poor and the private rooms for the

elderly are warm welcoming spaces, providing good food and quality care. It is a place of community, where all nationalities and denominations are welcome. It has a 5-star Medicaid rating, and only 12% of all nursing homes in Illinois have achieved this level.

Although Sr. Maria said she couldn't vouch for the story, other sources report that as the Civil War began winding down, President Lincoln himself reportedly contacted the Little Sisters' headquarters in France asking the order to send nuns over to America to care for the numerous elderly people on both sides who had lost

their families and were left penniless and homeless.

The Little Sisters of the Poor are an international congregation of Roman Catholic women religious founded in 1839 by Saint Jeanne Jugan. Together with a diverse network of collaborators, they serve the elderly poor in over 30 countries around the world, offering the neediest elderly of every race and religion a home where they are welcomed and cared for as family and accompanied with dignity until they pass away.

The Little Sisters set up several homes on the East Coast in the 1860s and a home in New Orleans around the time of a major Yellow Fever epidemic. The Order opened several facilities in Chicago a few years later, among them the St. Augustine home at Sheffield and Fullerton which opened in 1886, remaining there for nearly a century until the nuns moved to Lakewood Ave.

Today there are 76 residents living in the care center – all over 65 – and an additional 50 apartments for low income senior residents at the Lakewood home, described by local businessman and St. Mary's Home supporter Dan O'Donnell as "more of a home" than an institution with a health-and-wellness program that often includes music, board games, excursions and even pet therapy including "Lincoln," the home's eight-month-old dog-in-residence.

Want to help? Call Sr. Maria Francis at 773-935-9600 or clichicago@littlesistersofthepoor.org.

Know someone who needs help?

St. Mary's Home's goal is to provide a loving home for people who need long-term care, but cannot afford the cost of a private pay nursing home. Their admissions process begins with a phone call to their Social Worker, Lisa Pietrusiewicz at 773-935-9600 ext. 216. She will send information about the home and ask for some preliminary information about the applicant's financial situation, current living situation, and current medical needs.

Those who meet their low-income requirements and if your medical needs are within their ability to provide care, will be invited - with a family member - to meet with them in person and tour the home. This interview is their way of ensuring that they can provide a good fit in their care, and also to give a sense of what it would feel like to live here at St. Mary's Home.

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Transitions workshop helps women over 50 process life changes

The Transition Network [TTN] will be presenting its signature program, Navigating Transitions, 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 1, at 345 E. Ohio St.

The workshop is designed to help women 50 and older who are exploring career change, rethinking their life and/or work, or who want to expand their networks.

The entry fee for TTN members is \$40; cost is \$50 for non-members.

The half-day workshop is for the woman who is in the process of exploring what's next for her. It is a highly experiential program for women to discover new possibilities, assess life and work, contemplate changes in housing and lifestyle, and expand social networks. It isn't a lecture about financial matters, retirement, or estate planning.

Navigating Transitions is based on the work of the late consultant William E. Bridges. He introduced a new way of thinking about change and transition, believing that change is situational while transition is psychological. Bridges's book, "Transitions: Making Sense of Life's Changes," offers insights on the stages of the transition process.

Kimberly Mulcahy and Ann-Marie Downing will facilitate the session.

Mulcahy is an experienced facilitator on navigating change and has certifications in leadership and coaching. She is responsible for learning and development at a global consumer products company.

Downing is a lifelong educator who relocated to Chicago two years ago and understands firsthand the challenges and opportunities that transitions bring.

"Many women 50 and older find themselves experiencing some kind of life transition, whether it's contemplating a career change, moving to a new city and not knowing many people, or ways of finding greater meaning in their lives," Mulcahy said. "This workshop gives women the opportunity to successfully navigate any transition they are in the midst of. We'll do this in an open and supportive environment."

TTN is an inclusive community of professional women, 50 and forward, whose changing life situations lead them to seek new connections, resources and opportunities. Through small group interactions, programs and workshops, members inspire and support each other to continue a life of learning, engagement and leadership in the world.

To learn more about TTN in Chicago and to register for the workshop visit transitionnetwork.org/chapters-chicago/.

State expands transit benefits to more seniors in 2020

Adjustments made in income eligibility allow more people to qualify

The Illinois Dept. on Aging (IDoA) has implemented new annual income limits, making it possible for more individuals to qualify for the Secretary of State License Plate Discount, Seniors Ride Free Transit Benefit, and Persons with Disabilities Free Transit Ride.

To qualify for these benefits an applicant must be 65 years old or disabled.

"These benefits support some of our state's most vulnerable residents by assisting them in their transportation needs, so we are proud to announce that more individuals will be able to take advantage of this program," said Paula Basta, Director of IDoA.

Specifically, as part of the bipartisan budget implementation bill, SB 1814, which was passed in May by the General Assembly and signed into law by Governor JB Pritzker in June, it will now be easier for some to receive benefits from the Benefit Access Program, the formal name of the program that includes the Secretary of State License Plate Discount, Seniors Ride Free Transit Benefit, and Persons with Disabilities Free Transit Ride. Any application submitted now through April 15 will continue to use 2018 income but will be subjected to the new income limits. Applications submitted on or after April 16 must use 2019 income to file. Therefore, if an applicant applied in 2019 and was denied based on 2018 income using the current income limits, they will be afforded an opportunity to re-apply. Once approved, benefits are valid for two years.

The increase in income eligibility limitations reflect the annual cost of living adjustment in Social Security and supplemental security income benefits. The average annual Social Security income in Illinois is \$17,470/year. Without Social Security, it is estimated that an additional 36% of older Illinoisans would fall into poverty. There

has not been an increase in income eligibility limitations in the Benefit Access Program since 2010.

For Applications Submitted:

Households containing one person
Before January 1, 2020:
 less than \$27,610
On or after January 1, 2020:
 less than \$33,562

Households containing two persons
Before January 1, 2020:
 less than \$36,635
On or after January 1, 2020:
 less than \$44,533

Households containing three or more persons
Before January 1, 2020:
 less than \$45,657
On or after January 1, 2020:
 less than \$55,500

In Fiscal Year 2019, the department received over 126,180 applications, compared to 75,288 applications in 2006, which was the first year IDoA had made the application available online.

To be determined eligible for these benefits, individuals must submit an application online. Visit www.illinois.gov/aging/ and click on the "Benefit Access" tab near the top. Paper applications are not available.

Individuals who don't have access to a computer are encouraged to contact their local Area Agency on Aging, visit a local senior center, public library, or community center. For assistance call the IDoA Senior HelpLine at 1-800-252-8966 (hearing impaired call 1-888-206-1327).



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JOURNEY from p. 9

gigahertz (GHz) range. This period saw the advent of internet, as well.

Today, Sunil feels proud to have participated in the microchip revolution from the beginning, a revolution which has propelled the United States to the forefront of this technology.

Life at The Clare

Sunil and his wife continued to live in California after their retirement in the 2000s. They raised two daughters, who are now in the prime of their careers. True to his academic urges, Sunil developed and taught courses in devices for industrial engineers, and he went on to write a biography about his father and his extensive research.

Through it all, Sunil says that he wouldn't

have excelled were it not for his wife by his side.

"She supported me in all of those moves," he says. "She said, 'I'll go where your passion takes you.' And after the kids grew up, she pursued her own career at Hewlett Packard as a computer software engineer."

When his wife passed, Sunil's daughters found The Clare and knew it would be perfect for him. Living there allows him to be closer to his daughters, and freedom to pursue a newfound passion.

"I'm looking at the metaphysics side of philosophy," he says. "I want to explore what's beyond this world."

As he reflects on his journey to the U.S. and the longevity of his career, Sunil knows it wasn't easy.

"It was a struggle in the beginning," he says, "but it was very satisfying."

Physics, electrical engineering researcher shares his journey to the United States

Clare resident Sunil Shabde

Growing up in India, Clare resident Sunil Shabde was surrounded by science.

His father was a renowned mathematician, known for conducting research on Einstein's Unified Field Theory in the 1930s. It was he who inspired Sunil to pursue his own scientific passions.

After earning a degree in physics from Nagpur University and a degree in electrical engineering from the Indian Institute of Science in Bangalore, Sunil struggled to find a job to his liking – one that would involve working with semiconductor devices, since they were developing at the time. He moved to the United States in 1963, where his journey truly began.

Life in the U.S.

Sunil knew moving to the U.S. would provide him with life-changing opportunities, but he felt guilty leaving his mother alone to care for his younger siblings. His father had died a few years prior, but his family ultimately encouraged him to leave.

So, Sunil married his childhood sweetheart and moved to the U.S. three months later on a student visa, having been accepted to Purdue University.

Upon stepping foot on Purdue's campus, Sunil knew he made the right choice.

"Purdue, compared to India, was like a breath of fresh air," he says.

There, he experienced a new level of academic freedom at his fingertips. Sunil wasn't used to the idea that students could choose their own courses and career paths.

"My counselor said I could take as many courses as I wanted," he said. "That was unheard of in India."

In his home country, parents tended to choose careers for their children, and students typically followed fixed curriculums, he says. He seized the freedom afforded to him at Purdue and enrolled in courses outside of the electrical engineering department.

"I took a quantum mechanics course that really thrilled me," he said.

As he worked toward his master's degree, his wife joined him in the United States, and he soon began envisioning where his career might take him. When he received his degree, a professor from Purdue who was given a promotion at Rice University offered Sunil an assistantship while he worked on his Ph.D. He was hesitant, but his wife pushed him to accept the offer.

"She said, 'Remember what you came here for. You came to do research, and if you take a job in some industry after your master's, you won't be able to do that,'" Sunil recalls. "That was the best advice she had ever given me."

So, he accepted the assistantship, which only paid \$250 a month. Sunil worked in a lab day and night, researching thermomagnetism, a new physics-related phenomenon for energy conversion.

While Sunil loved his work, the pay wasn't sufficient, especially with a baby on the way. After his wife gave birth to



(Left) Dr. Sunil Shabde with his wife, Sheela and daughters, Dipti and Aarti. (Right) Dr. Sunil Shabde as a child with his family in India.



their first-born daughter, Sunil didn't know how they were going to cover the charges. Luckily, the doctor noticed that Sunil was working toward his Ph.D. and knew how very little he was earning. The doctor did the unthinkable for them.

"He waived all of my charges," Sunil says. "I couldn't believe it. I really got the sense that Americans are generous people."

Today, Sunil feels proud to have participated in the microchip revolution from the beginning, a revolution which has propelled the United States to the forefront of this technology.

Within two years, Sunil finished his Ph.D. and was offered a job to make microchips for Collins, known for its aviation and space electronics. The job took his family to Cedar Rapids, Iowa, for six months, followed by Newport Beach, California, where he helped set up a microchip factory.

"I was also doing research, because they were setting up MOS (mobile operating system) technology that was way ahead of its time," he said.

After working for Collins for over a year, Sunil felt the urge to pursue other opportunities. When the University of Michigan reached out to him to set up labs for students, where they could fabricate semiconductor devices and small chips, Sunil knew he had to jump in. As an assistant professor, he successfully established two labs and two courses for students to learn about recent developments in microchip technology.

"Students were lining up for registration, because who gets a chance in the university to see the fabrication of microchips?" he said.

Working in Silicon Valley

Again, Sunil realized that the real cutting-edge of technology was elsewhere, not in universities but in Silicon Valley.

He wanted to get involved with the early stage of the computer revolution. Sunil got a job in Silicon Valley, and he and his family made the move in 1973.

"I was basically chasing where the high technology was," he said. "That was my main focus."

Sunil spent more than 30 years working

for several companies in Silicon Valley, including innovative startups. In that time, he witnessed many technological advancements.

"Before the microchips came, computers occupied the whole room," he said. "Now we have laptops!"

Silicon Valley fostered a community of constant innovation, allowing Sunil to research the new phenomena of the shrinking size of transistors.

He attended international conferences of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers and published 10 papers on the hot electron effect alone. One of those papers, "Hot Electron-Induced Snapback Effect in MOS Transistors," aimed to design protection for the microchips from electro-

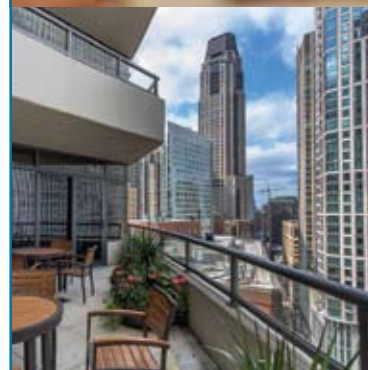
static discharge. Even today, this idea is being used in current products. He was also awarded six patents on alpha particle damage to chips in space.

"A lot of strange phenomenon happen when you shrink a transistor," Sunil says. "We had to suppress harmful ones."

To do so, he had to design innovative transistor structures within silicon.

During his time in Silicon Valley, Sunil worked on six generations of technology and transferred them to manufacturing. Over the course of his career, the number of transistors on a chip went from hundreds to several billion, while computer speed reached unprecedented

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Police Beat...

Thievin' Drummer Boy charged with stealing Salvation Army kettle in Loop

One of the Loop's ever-present "bucket boys" is charged with stealing a Salvation Army bell ringer's kettle and stand from outside Macy's on State St.

Officers arrested Jordan Moore, 24, shortly after noon on Dec. 20 when they recognized him from surveillance images of the theft, according to police records.



Jordan Moore

The bell ringer told police a thief took his entire bucket, stand, and donation sign while he took a bathroom break around 3:45 p.m. on Dec 18. The kettle probably contained about \$300 in donations, the Salvation Army said. The pot and stand are worth another \$200.

Surveillance video captured images of the thief running on Washington St. with the stolen kettle immediately after it was taken, police said.

And, when cops in the Loop later received images of the thief, one officer recognized the culprit as Moore, who frequently beats a bucket for money along State Street, according to police records.

Shortly after noon on Friday, patrol officers saw Moore banging his bucket at State and Washington and stopped him for an interview.

Meanwhile, a passerby told police that there was an unattended Salvation Army kettle in an alley just a few steps away. Police recovered the stolen kettle and took Moore into custody.

Man with long history of Red Line trouble charged with violent robbery

A man with a long history of sparking trouble and violence in the Loop and near the Chicago Red Line CTA station is now charged with participating in a violent robbery at the Jackson Red Line CTA station in November. He also just happens to have served prison time for another violent robbery on the Red Line in 2015.

Roderrick K. Sims racked up eight separate arrests near the Red Line downtown last year. And he was supposed to be on electronic monitoring while awaiting trial for one of those incidents when he allegedly skipped bail and brutally



Roderrick K. Sims

attacked a 37-year-old man with four other offenders around 10:50 p.m. Nov. 29.

Police arrested Sims outside the McDonald's at 10 E. Chicago on Dec. 27 after they recognized him from CTA surveillance images of the robbery offenders.

The victim told police that he was on the Red Line platform at 200 S. State when five men approached him, grabbed him by the legs, pushed him to the ground, and beat him. The man struck his face on the platform, and the offenders then began taking his valuables,

according to CPD spokesperson Michelle Tannehill.

The offenders fled onto a southbound train with a suitcase, a blue and black bag, and a leather bag belonging to the man, according to Tannehill and details in a police report. Prosecutors charged Sims with one count of felony robbery. Judge Mary Marubio set bail at \$100,000 and ordered him to go onto electronic monitoring if he can post a \$10,000 deposit bond.

State records show that Sims received an 18-month sentence for participating in a violent robbery at the Chicago Red Line station on Aug. 20, 2015. In that case, a 20-year-old man was attacked from behind by five men who beat him in the face and body before stealing his phone and baseball hat. Prosecutors agreed to reduce the robbery charge to mob action in exchange for Sims' guilty plea.

In Nov. 2017, Sims was accused of burglarizing a home on the 500 block of E. Chestnut. Prosecutors said he confronted a resident inside the house, beat the man with his fists, and took \$200 cash from the victim's pants pockets. He then punched out a TV screen and fled, police said at the time.

The victims refused to pursue felony charges, and Sims wound up getting a sentence of 15 days time served for criminal damage to property.

Physician nearly run over during River North carjacking

A 53-year-old doctor was pushed from her vehicle by two carjackers who nearly ran her over as they sped away in River North on Sunday afternoon, according to police and witnesses. No one is in custody.

Police said the woman was seated in her parked Porsche Cayenne with the engine running and the doors unlocked on the 300 block of W. Illinois around 2:45 p.m. Jan. 5.

That's when a man opened the front passenger door, started a conversation, and then sat down in the passenger seat. He then implied that he had a gun and told the woman to get out of her car.

The man then pushed the victim out of the driver's side door while another man entered the rear passenger seat. One of the men climbed into the driver's seat and sped away with the driver's door still open, causing the victim to fall to the ground.

Police said the woman suffered bruises and abrasions from the fall. She was transported to Rush Hospital where her condition stabilized.

The stolen SUV is dark blue in color and it bears a license plate that begins with BW57. Witnesses said the carjackers are two black males in their early 20's who wore acid wash jeans with black jackets.

According to witnesses and police, the vehicle sped westbound on Illinois, north on Orleans, west on Grand, and then north on Kingsbury after the carjacking.

Police investigate Marina City home invasion

A River North resident claims three men forced their way into his apartment, assaulted him, and stole money from a safe.

According to Chicago police, the incident happened on Dec. 17 at Marina City, 300 N. State.

The 23-year-old man told police he was home at about 8:14 p.m. when three men, all of whom he knew, came to his door. When he opened the door, two of the men forced their way into the apartment.

One of the men then shoved the victim against a wall and punched him in the jaw, causing minor injury.

The men took from the victim his mobile telephone and \$1,000 in cash from a safe.

Police say the men who entered



WANTED

Creep on the Red Line assaults woman

On Jan. 2, at approximately 9:57 a.m., a 24-year-old woman was riding the northbound Red Line CTA Train towards the Morse Ave. stop when she was encountered by a male subject exposing his genitals.

The victim changed rail cars and as she attempted to elude him, the subject struck her several times. The male offender then inappropriately touched her, demanded she perform an inappropriate act against her will, and then took her personal belongings.

the apartment are all about 25 years old. Two are black and one is Asian.

Police initially classified the incident as a strong-arm robbery but changed it to a burglary and home invasion.

Man armed with box cutter robs two Lincoln Square women in 30 minutes

A man wielded a box cutter to rob two women on Dec. 18 in under 30 minutes in the Lincoln Square neighborhood. No one is in custody.

The offender approached the first woman as she walked with her two children on the 2600 block of W. Leland at 3:36 p.m., according to a CPD spokesperson. He then pulled out a box cutter and demanded the woman's cash.

Police said the victim, 39, complied and the robber then fled eastbound on Leland.

The woman described the robber as a heavier-set 20-year-old Hispanic man with a mustache who stands about 5'-8" tall and weighs 180 lbs. He wore a green, yellow, and black coat.

About 20 minutes later, a man resembling that description approached a 44-year-old woman after she parked her car on the 2500 block of W. Cullom.

The man displayed a box cutter and demanded her property, police said. But, he ran away empty-handed after the victim refused to comply and began yelling, police said.

According to the second victim, the man appeared to be 17- to 20-years-old, 5'-6" to 5'-9" tall, and 150-180 lbs. He wore dark pants with a jacket similar to the one described by the first victim.

The man was last seen running westbound on Cullom and then southbound on the river path.

Arsonists hits North Center, Roscoe Village

Arson investigators are working to track down the person who's responsible for setting at least five fires overnight in Roscoe Village and North Center. No injuries were reported in the fires, which were set in dumpsters behind homes and businesses.

The fire spree strongly resembles the work of an at-large arsonist who is responsible for setting a series of blazes in Lakeview and Lincoln Park since October.

Police and fire personnel responded to the first overnight fire around 11:30 p.m. in an alley behind the 3200 block of N. Leavitt. The fire was quickly extinguished.

Beginning at 3:20 a.m. Jan. 5, a series of trash can and dumpster fires were found burning. One in the 1800 block of W. Eddy; another in the 1700

block of W. Cornelia; and two on the 3400 block of N. Lincoln.

Police searching for the arsonist found the two Lincoln Ave. fires moments after they were set. Officers were able to pull the burning receptacles away from nearby structures to prevent larger fires.

No description is available of the offender. No arrests have been made.

Police are looking for two men armed with handguns in connection with a Saturday morning home invasion in the Lakeview neighborhood.

Four men—two age 23 and two age 24—told police that one of their friends left their home on the 1300 block of W. Fletcher to get money from a nearby ATM around 4 a.m. Jan. 4. The offenders then entered the home while brandishing handguns and demanded property from the victims.

Police said the offenders took two ATM cards and demanded the PINs from the cards' owners. The gunmen then withdrew a total of \$1,300 from the victims' accounts. A television and electronics were also taken in the home invasion.

Surveillance video from a nearby 7-Eleven store showed the offenders following one of the victims into the store before the home invasion.

CPD did not release any descriptions of the offenders. Area North detectives are investigating.

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A witness called police as the robbery unfolded, and police caught up with Grant in an alley behind the 3500 block of N. Sheffield around 6:15 a.m.

Prosecutors charged Grant with felony robbery, felony aggravated battery, and misdemeanor deceptive practice.

State records show Grant was paroled on Aug. 23 after serving half of a five-year sentence that he received for burglarizing a Lakeview East home in 2017.

In that case, a man woke up in the 800 block of W. Buckingham and found Grant standing over him. Grant ran out the back door with property he had gathered from the apartment—an iPhone, a MacBook, and the man's wallet, police said.

Officers found Grant hiding in the apartment building's basement with the victim's stolen property, according to police.

In 2015, Grant received 30-months probation for robbing a 25-year-old man in Wrigleyville. Prosecutors said at the time that Grant and another man approached the victim from behind on the 3600 block of N. Sheffield, punched him in the head and face, and stole his iPhone and wallet.

While on probation for that robbery, prosecutors charged Grant with a long list of narcotics charges after police allegedly found him in possession of cocaine and pot near Halsted and Melrose in Boystown.

Group of teens rob woman, taxi driver outside Lakeview pharmacy

A teenage girl is in custody, but three other offenders remain at large after the group robbed two people outside a Lakeview drug store on Jan. 3.

Police said the girl and three males approached a 33-year-old woman and demanded her property on the parking lot of CVS Pharmacy, 3101 N. Halsted, around 10:15 p.m.

A struggle broke out between the victim and the offenders, who stole the woman's phone and shoulder bag before running from the scene.

Responding officers searched the area for suspects and detained a 16-year-old girl after a brief foot chase on the 600 block of W. Barry.

While police were handling the incident, a 47-year-old taxi driver flagged them down to report that the same three offenders had also robbed him.

Prosecutors charged the girl with one count of robbery in connection with the first mugging. No charges have been filed in the taxi driver robbery.

Both victims declined medical attention.

The taxi driver's cellphone began pinging about an hour after the robberies as it traveled southbound on the Red Line from Diversey, according to officers who handled the case. The phone's last ping came minutes later from near Madison and Clark in the Loop.

Three male offenders remain at large, including one who police said is black, 15-20 years old, 5'-5" to 5'-11" tall, and 140-150 lbs.

Man shot in Uptown

A 24-year-old man is in good condition after being shot outside a convenience store in the Uptown neighborhood on Jan. 2. No one is in custody.

Police said the victim was with a group of people on the sidewalk in the 900 block of W. Wilson when someone opened fire from a vehicle around 4:55 p.m. Investigators

El Hefe investigation: Police gather new images of mystery man, but they have “no probable cause to arrest”

BY CWBCHICAGO

Chicago police have secured detailed images of a man who private attorneys say sexually assaulted a woman after escorting her out the back door of El Hefe, a bar at 15 W. Hubbard in River North, early on Oct. 18.

The images, provided to this newspaper by a source, are marked with an explicit warning to police that the department has not developed probable cause to arrest the man, despite detailed allegations made to media outlets by the victim's attorneys on Nov. 30.

In a civil suit filed against El Hefe just before Thanksgiving, attorneys alleged that bar employees led a 23-year-old woman through the bar's rear entrance with another man who then sexually assaulted her some distance away.

At their press conference, the woman's attorneys released a surveillance video that shows a man dressed in black with red shoes walking the woman out of El

Hefe and into an alley while two people who appear to be employees watch.

The attorneys alleged at the press conference and in the lawsuit that the man seen walking with the woman sexually assaulted her in the alley while El Hefe employees stood “about 100 feet away.”

El Hefe said in a social media post that the woman was escorted out of the bar after she became intoxicated and a man “followed the female guest” out of the bar. None of its employees saw any kind of sexual assault take place, the bar said.

After walking the woman down the alley, the man returned to the bar through the back door, and he left through the main entrance a little while later, El Hefe said.

Police investigate

Chicago police confirmed that an EMS crew took the 23-year-old woman to Northwestern Memorial Hospital from the alley behind El Hefe shortly after midnight on Oct. 18.

The woman reportedly told Northwestern staff that she could not remember any details of the evening leading up to her hospitalization.

CPD's investigation into the alleged sexual assault was in suspended status at the time of the attorneys' press conference, CPD spokesperson Kellie Bartoli said this week. But officials subsequently re-opened the inquiry, and it remains open and assigned, according to Bartoli.

Detectives are trying to locate the man who walked the woman out of the bar so they can interview him, Bartoli said.

But, police have not yet determined if any crime took place that night, and they do not have probable cause to arrest the man, according to a source and internal CPD documents secured by this newspaper.

So far, police have chosen to not release any images of the man to news media.

“That's up to detectives if they want to do that,” Bartoli said.

16 years later, justice for Lincoln Park theater director slain after night out in Boystown

BY CWBCHICAGO

Sixteen years after theater director Brad Nelson Winters was brutally slain following a night out on the Boystown bar strip, justice has been served.

Ramon Smith, a two-time convicted robbery offender who investigators tracked down through DNA evidence in 2016, pleaded guilty to killing Winters in the director's Lincoln Park apartment in August 2003.

next day. He had been strangled and stabbed. The apartment was not locked. There were no signs of forced entry.

A funeral director later told WBBM radio that Winters “suffered ‘wounds of torture,’ including two dozen stab wounds and blows to the head.”



Ramon Smith

Judge William Raines sentenced him to 24 years in prison.

A friend of Winters told the Chicago Reader in 2004 that she went barhopping with Winters on Sunday, Aug. 17 and last saw him at Little Jim's, 3501 N. Halsted.

Winters didn't show up for work at Northwestern Univ. on the 18th. A co-worker found him dead in his apartment on the 500 block of W. Belden the

The hunt for Winters' killer quickly grew cold.

Thirteen years later, authorities in Texas took a DNA sample from Smith after he was convicted on a drug charge. The

sample matched blood samples taken from Winters' living room and bathtub as well as material recovered from under Winters' fingernails, prosecutors said.

Armed with the DNA match and a warrant from Cook County, Texas authorities took Smith into custody and extradited him to Chicago in 2016.

Smith, 45, is scheduled to be paroled on Oct. 17, 2040.

Two teenage girls charged in Red Line attacks

Chicago police are investigating the robberies of still more CTA passengers on the downtown transit system this week. At least five Red Line riders have reported being robbed since Dec. 29.

Two girls, one age 16 and the other age 15, turned themselves in to authorities Jan. 4 after investigators published images of them in connection with the robbery and battery of two CTA Red Line passengers, police said. Four other suspects remain at large.

Prosecutors charged each girl with one felony count of robbery and two felony counts of aggravated battery in a public place.

Police said the two were part of a six-person group that attacked and robbed two female passengers on the Red Line at the Roosevelt station around 6:40 p.m. Dec. 29.

The girls admitted to participating in the robbery and to punching and kicking the victims, police said.

Detectives continue to search for two males and two females in connection with the crime.

Around 6:30 p.m. Dec. 29, a 28-year-old pregnant woman and her 23-year-old friend reported that a group of teens started a confrontation after they boarded a train at the Chicago Ave. CTA station.

The offenders began attacking the women when their train arrived at the Roosevelt station.

“I feel people kicking me, going through my pockets, they attacked us,” the victim told ABC7 news. “The whole time my friend was yelling, ‘She's pregnant, she's pregnant, don't fight her, she's pregnant!’”

The pregnant woman fell to the

train floor after one of the assailants struck her in the back of the head, police said. The group then kicked and battered the woman before taking some of her property and running away.

An ambulance transported the woman to Mercy Hospital for treatment.

Later, around 11:40 p.m., a group of between six and 10 teens began harassing a 61-year-old man on a northbound train under the Loop. Two male teens followed the man off the train onto the Lake St. platform, where they pushed him into two female members of the group.

The four then attacked the victim by punching him in the face and body, police said.

A 21-year-old man who was on the train saw the attack unfolding and tried to help the victim. When he did, the group of teens began attacking him, too, according to police.

The offenders took the victims' wallets and other property before fleeing to street level. Witnesses reported that the group then moved south on State St. and escaped by re-entering the Red Line at Monroe.

Around the same time, two men beat and robbed a Red Line

passenger in River North.

That victim told police the offenders beat him in his face and took his iPhone 10X on the Red Line at Chicago-State around 11:25 p.m. The men then escaped by running to street level.

Police said the offenders are one Hispanic man and one black man in their late teens or early 20's. Both wore black clothing, and both stand about six-feet tall.

Around 5:40 p.m. on New Year's Eve, a juvenile male

punched a 61-year-old man in the face and robbed him on a train near the Chicago Ave. station, police said. Police arrested that teen and prosecutors charged him with two counts of robbery and aggravated battery of a victim over age 60.

Most recently, around 7:55 p.m. on New Year's Eve, a 22-year-old man told police that someone punched him in the face and robbed him on a Red Line train near the Grand station.

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Exhibit shows Path to German Unification



The Willi Scharpenberg Gallery at DANKHaus, 4740 N. Western Ave., is now hosting rotating artistic and historical exhibits year round.

The first of the new year opened Tuesday, titled "The Path to German Unification." The exhibition runs through Feb. 15 and explores the lead-up to the reunification after the division following WWII and the Cold War. It was just over 30 years ago that the Berlin Wall came down. For

a short time, the Gallery will host an English-language exhibit that explores the dramatic timeline leading up to this event.

The exhibition is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and was developed and created by the Federal Foundation for the Study of the Communist Dictatorship in Germany and Germany's Federal Foreign Office.

For more information call 773-561-9181.

North Side networking lunch Jan. 22

A North Side networking luncheon co-hosted by four North Side chambers of commerce will be held 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 22, at Mysore Woodlands, 2548 W. Devon Ave.

Ticket includes a very unique structured networking experience and lunch. And don't forget the business cards.

Advance tickets cost \$16, and day of tickets \$20 at the door.

Seating is limited. Wait listing available, for more information call 773-561-6000.

Future networking events will be held April 22 in Uptown, July 8 in Edgewater, and on Oct. 14 in Rogers Park.

Jun Fujita: American Visionary coming to Trienens Galleries

Jun Fujita: American Visionary, co-presented by the Newberry Library and the Poetry Foundation, focuses on the extraordinary accomplishments of poet and photojournalist Jun Fujita.

The exhibit will run Jan. 24 through March 31 in the Trienens Galleries, 60 W. Walton St. This exhibition is free and open to all.

This exhibition presents an expanded version of Jun Fujita: Oblivion, first mounted at the Poetry Foundation in 2017, and ex-

plores Fujita's poetry, photojournalism, landscape photography, and uncommon life and love.

Born outside of Hiroshima in 1888, Fujita came to Chicago in 1909, becoming the first Japanese American photojournalist. As an English-language tanka poet, he published regularly in Poetry during the 1920s; as a photographer, he captured many of the most famous moments in Chicago history, including the Eastland Disaster, the 1919 race riots, and the St. Valentine's Day massacre.

INSIDE PUBLICATIONS



Bobbi Panter and Matt Arneau.



Sherrill Bodine, Cheryl Levine and Cookie Cohen.



Porchlight Music Theatre's Sophisticated Ladies featuring (Left) Donterrio Johnson, Eustace Williams, John Marshall Jr. and Lorenzo Rush Jr. (Right) Donica Lynn.



Photos by Anthony Robert LaPenna



Scott Martin, Oliver Dunne, Breitenstein and Andy Wilson.



Aerte Sophisticated Ladies' Molly Krall. Photo by Anthony Robert LaPenna



Sophisticated Ladies' Lydia Burke. Photo by Anthony Robert LaPenna

QUICKLY from p. 2

Leese Emrich watched the Red Box Bowl (IL vs CA)... **Hector Gustavo Cardenas** and **Marius Morkvenus** flying from Sao Paulo, Brazil to Buenos Aires, Argentina... **Melinda Jakovich-Lagrange** and the great **Lucien** having NYE lunch at Bittersweet, their glorious fried chicken, it may not be Lyon, France, but "quell delicious"... **Scott Martin, Oliver Dunne, Aerte Breitenstein** and **Andy Wilson** at the Soho Beach Club in Miami... **Bobbi Panter** and **Matthew Arnoux** at Claridges in London after so much light in Paris... **Bruce**

Dumont in Palms Oasis, CA... **Rolf Achilles** in The Museum für Kunst und Gewerbe, Hamburg, Germany... **Mamie Walton** dining afresh in the New Year with **Sherrill** and **John Bodine** and later with honorary grandson, **Sean Eshaghy** and **Christopher Stovall** at the Peninsula... **Bill, Charley, Cathy** and **Joey Bartholomay** looking good in their monogrammed sleepwear, perfect holiday attire.

TIDBIT: **Hillary Rodham Clinton** appointed Chancellor Queen's College Belfast.

FOOD DESERT: The absence of Treasure Island has once more complicated Christmas dinners. Looking back on past Christmases we are amazed at the far reaching influence of the late Treasure Island. Its years of service gave our lakefront community, especially Old Town, the huge luxury of fine food products, hard to find ingredients and easy to gather preparations. All under one roof. So we would like to say on behalf of all good cooks in town that we miss the thoughtful and, at times, zaniness that Treasure Island provided.

THE "A" TRAIN: They're already tapping their toes over at Porchlight Music Theatre, as their season continues with **Duke Ellington's Sophisticated Ladies**, Jan. 24 - March 6, at The Ruth Page Center for the Arts, 1016 N. Dearborn St. Featuring music by Duke Ellington, concept by

Donald McKayle, direction and choreography by **Brenda Didier** and **Florence Walker Harris**, and music direction by **Jermaine Hill**. This is a celebration of the artist many consider one of the most important composers in the history of American music. This salute to "the Duke" should transport audiences on a high-stepping, dynamic journey through the life and times of this great showman. From his early days at Harlem's legendary Cotton Club through growing successes at Carnegie Hall, on Broadway, in Hollywood and around the world, this elegant, Tony Award-nominated entertainment features a treasure trove of Ellington's biggest hits... don't miss it.

NETFLIX: I am perplexed at the strange dark series that comes out of Netflix. Most of their materials have been pretty cool and optimistic in the past. Try *Virgin River*, a rational series about a nurse practitioner in a small town. Or *Politician*, a series with **Gwyneth Paltrow** about a high school student running for class prez. Or even if you don't speak French, *Call My Agent*, who knew the French could be so funny?

May the New Year bring you courage to break your resolutions early! My own plan is to swear off every kind of virtue, so that I triumph even when I fall! — **Aleister Crowley**

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Miscellaneous, cont.

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POLICE BEAT from p. 14

Streeterville muggings

Police said a woman was mugged as she walked a dog near Lake Shore Park in Streeterville on Jan. 2. She is at least the third person to be robbed in the immediate area since Dec. 30.

The woman, 49, told police that a man approached her and started pushing her as she walked with a dog on the 800 block of N. Dewitt around 10:30 a.m. The woman dropped some of her property as she fell over a cement barrier, according to a witness. The offender picked up her items and then jumped into a white Jeep that fled the scene eastbound on Pearson toward Lake Shore Dr.

The attack took place within steps of where two robberies were reported on Monday evening. Police said the earlier cases also involved a white SUV.

Around 10:30 p.m. Dec. 30, a man sought help from a high-rise condo building's doorman after an offender attacked and robbed him on the 200 block of E. Pearson, according to a police report.

According to a witness and the victim, the offender battered him, took his phone and wallet, then fled in a white SUV that was driven by another person. The offender is a black male who wore a white puffy jacket with a hood, police said. The SUV fled eastbound on Pearson.

At almost exactly the same time, the doorman for a Lake Shore Dr. building was robbed by a similarly-described offender on the 800 block of N. Dewitt Place.

—Compiled by CWBChicago.com and Steven Dahlman

ROLLOUT from p. 5

the state conducted 77,128 transactions on Jan. 1, with sales totaling more than \$3.1 million.

That happened despite a few snags on the opening day of sales. Althoff said.

First, she said, there were glitches in the software that dispensaries use at the point of sale, which contributed to long wait times. Previously, dispensaries were allowed to sell only to qualified medical patients, but now they must keep close track of both medical and recreational sales, which are taxed differently.

Adjustments made by the software company to address that change, Althoff said, caused a few problems.

“There were a few glitches, not everywhere, but in a few of the dispensaries,” she said. “... But my understanding is that they were rapidly corrected. But it did add to some of the wait times that people experienced.”

In addition, she said, many dispensary operators had made design changes to their stores to accommodate a larger retail clientele, but state officials had not yet inspected all of those changes and some dispensaries were unable to open for recreational sales on Jan. 1.

And then there were issues of supply. Under the new law, Althoff said, medical dispensaries, which were the first to receive licenses for recreational sales, are required to keep a 30-day supply of marijuana products for their medical customers, leaving only a limited amount of inventory available for recreational customers.

She said supply shortages are expect-

ed to continue until April or May, when cultivation centers that have been licensed to grow recreational marijuana reap their first crop.

But with every new right comes an equal and opposite responsibility.

Secretary of State Jesse White reminded pot users that while recreational marijuana is now legal, “driving high is not. Illinois has strict laws against driving impaired. If you choose to use recreational marijuana, do so safely and responsibly and avoid driving impaired. If you are pulled over for driving high, you will get a DUI. If you choose to use marijuana or consume alcohol, take public transportation, a cab or a ridesharing service or designate a sober driver.”

Meanwhile, state officials remain busy implementing other parts of the bill. On Tuesday, Dec. 31, Gov. Pritzker issued 11,017 pardons that will lead to the expungement of records for people with low-level marijuana convictions. Eventually, more than 700,000 criminal records will be expunged under the new law.

Thursday, Jan. 2, marked the deadline for people to submit applications for the next wave of dispensary licenses. As many as 75 new licenses will be issued May 1, with priority being given to “social equity” applicants – people with previous marijuana convictions, their families and people from areas of the state with high crime or child poverty rates.

A share of the revenue the state receives from recreational marijuana sales is earmarked for the new “Restore, Reinvest, and Renew Program” to fund community projects in neighborhoods that, in Hutchinson’s words, “have been hardest hit by the

Where are the dealers going?

Following below are the proposed North Side locations that have been submitted to City Hall and by whom:

- MedMen** [one north location]:
1001 W. North Ave.
- NuMed** [one west location]:
935 W. Randolph St.
- MOCA** [one central location]:
214-232 W. Ohio St.
- Windy City Cannabis** [one central location]:
807 W. Randolph St.
1140 W. Madison St.
901 W. Kinzie St.
- Windy City Cannabis** [one north location]:
923 W. Weed St.
2352 W. Belmont Ave.
4025 N. Elston Ave.
4758 N. Clark St.
- Greenhouse Group** [one central location]:
777 N. LaSalle Blvd.
100 E. Ontario St.
423 W. Ontario St.
60 W. Superior St.
116 W. Hubbard St.
612 N. Wells St.
- Cresco Labs** [two central locations]:
436 N. Clark St.
60 W. Superior St.
21-29 W. Division St.

war on drugs.”

Other revenue is earmarked for a Cannabis Business Development Fund that will provide grants and low-interest loans to social equity applicants to help pay part of the startup cost of launching a marijuana-related business.

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION DITECH FINANCIAL LLC Plaintiff, -v- MICHAEL D KEENEY DECLARATION OF TRUST DATED THE 29TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2000, GLEN ALBION CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, N.A., UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEE OF MICHAEL D KEENEY, IF ANY, UNKNOWN BENEFICIARIES OF MICHAEL D KEENEY DECLARATION OF TRUST DATED THE 29TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2000, IF ANY, UNKNOWN SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE OF MICHAEL D KEENEY DECLARATION OF TRUST DATED THE 29TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2000, IF ANY, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS Defendants 19 CH 04737 6623 NORTH GLENWOOD AVENUE 2N CHICAGO, IL 60626 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on November 13, 2019, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on February 14, 2020, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker Drive, CHICAGO, IL, 60606, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 6623 NORTH GLENWOOD AVENUE 2N, CHICAGO, IL 60626 Property Index No. 11-32-312-017-1002 The real estate is improved with a brown brick, three story condominium with no garage. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial Sale fee for the Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds/wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales.

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etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. MCCALLA RAYMER LEIBERT PIERCE, LLC Plaintiffs Attorneys, One North Dearborn Street, Suite 1200, Chicago, IL, 60602. Tel No. (312) 346-9088. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjisc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. MCCALLA RAYMER LEIBERT PIERCE, LLC One North Dearborn Street, Suite 1200 Chicago IL, 60602 312-346-9088 E-Mail: pleadings@mccalla.com Attorney File No. 269580 Attorney ARDC No. 61256 Attorney Code. 61256 Case Number: 19 CH 04737 TJSC#: 39-7433 NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Case # 19 CH 04737 I3142044 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION Plaintiff, -v- ATANDA MUSA, 2045 WEST CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, 2045 W. MORSE CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION Defendants 17 CH 16539 2049 W MORSE AVE APT 1W CHICAGO, IL 60645 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on October 24, 2019, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on February 13, 2020, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker Drive, CHICAGO, IL, 60606, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 2049 W MORSE AVE APT 1W, CHICAGO, IL 60645 Property Index No. 11-31-120-064-1009 The real estate is improved with a condo/townhouse. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial Sale fee for the Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds/wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will

Real Estate For Sale

entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information, examine the court file, CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. Plaintiffs Attorneys, 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100, BURR RIDGE, IL, 60527 (630) 794-9876 THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjisc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100 BURR RIDGE IL, 60527 630-794-5300 E-Mail: pleadings@il.cslegal.com Attorney File No. 14-17-17408 Attorney ARDC No. 00468002 Attorney Code. 21762 Case Number: 17 CH 16539 TJSC#: 39-8055 NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Case # 17 CH 16539 I3141662 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION LOANDEPOT.COM, LLC D/B/A IMORTGAGE Plaintiff, -v- DONNA OVERTON AKA DONNA R. OVERTON, COLUMBIA PARC CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION Defendants 19 CH 02216 1620 W COLUMBIA AVE, UNIT 2S CHICAGO, IL 60626 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on October 24, 2019, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on February 18, 2020, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker Drive, CHICAGO, IL, 60606, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Unit number 1620-2S in the Columbia Parc Condominium, as delineated on a survey of the following described tract of Land: Commonly known as 1620 W COLUMBIA AVE, UNIT 2S, CHICAGO, IL 60626 Property Index No. 11-31-408-021-1010

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The real estate is improved with a residential condominium. The judgment amount was \$162,277.33. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial Sale fee for the Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds/wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information, HEAVNER, BEYERS & MIHLAR, LLC Plaintiffs Attorneys, 111 East Main Street, DECATUR, IL, 62523 (217) 422-1719. Please refer to file number 366069. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjisc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. HEAVNER, BEYERS & MIHLAR, LLC 111 East Main Street DECATUR IL, 62523 217-422-1719 Fax #: 217-422-1754 E-Mail: CookPleadings@hsbattys.com Attorney File No. 366069 Attorney Code. 40387 Case Number: 19 CH 02216 TJSC#: 39-6859 NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Case # 19 CH 02216 I3137023 080808

Real Estate For Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. AS TRUSTEE, FOR CARRINGTON MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST, SERIES 2006-NC3 ASSET-BACKED PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES Plaintiff, -v- SHYAM NAKARA, SUNUNDA BATTA, HOUSEHOLD FINANCE CORPORATION III Defendants 2016 CH 16638 2723 W GREENLEAF AVE CHICAGO, IL 60645 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on October 31, 2019, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on February 3, 2020, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker Drive, CHICAGO, IL, 60606, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 2723 W GREENLEAF AVE, CHICAGO, IL 60645 Property Index No. 10-36-210-035 The real estate is improved with a single family residence. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial Sale fee for the Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds/wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information, examine the court file, CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. Plaintiffs Attorneys, 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100, BURR

Real Estate For Sale

RIDGE, IL, 60527 (630) 794-9876 THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjisc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100 BURR RIDGE IL, 60527 630-794-5300 E-Mail: pleadings@il.cslegal.com Attorney File No. 14-19-04224 Attorney ARDC No. 00468002 Attorney Code. 21762 Case Number: 2016 CH 16638 TJSC#: 39-7229 NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Case # 2016 CH 16638 I3141283 010101 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION METROPOLITAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY Plaintiff, vs. WANDA R. YOUNG, GARRY P. YOUNG, GE CAPITAL MORTGAGE SERVICES, INC. SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO SHEARSON LEHMAN HUTTON MORTGAGE CORPORATION, UNKNOWN OWNERS, GENERALLY, AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS Defendants 16 CH 1804 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above entitled cause Intercountry Judicial Sales Corporation will on Monday, January 27, 2020 at the hour of 11 a.m. in their office at 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described mortgaged real estate: P.I.N. 11-30-401-005-0000. Commonly known as 7535 North Winchester Avenue, Chicago, IL 60626. The mortgaged real estate is improved with a single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Condominium Property Act. Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. For information call Mr. Anthony Porto at Plaintiff's Attorney, Kluever & Platt, L.L.C., 150 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60601. (312) 236-0077. SP5F.2436 INTERCOUNTRY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION Selling Officer, (312) 444-1122 I3140491 252525 **Legal Ads DBA Public Notices. We'll Run Your Ad For 3 Consecutive Weeks For Only \$150.00. Call 773-465-9700**

Comptroller to end state assistance in red-light camera debt collection

BY JERRY NOWICKI
Capitol News Illinois

Pressure is mounting on red-light camera operators as Illinois Comptroller Susana Mendoza announced Monday that, beginning Feb. 6, her office will no longer assist municipalities in collecting fines for violations caught by the devices.

“Over the years, it has become clear that these red-light cameras were less about keeping people safe and more about collecting revenue,” Mendoza said in a street-corner news conference overlooked by a red-light camera.

The cameras are automated devices that photograph vehicles if they pass through a red light without stopping, and generate a citation to the vehicle’s owner. Local governments typically split the revenue from citations with vendors that place the cameras.

“They were sold as a way to prevent motorists from racing through the intersections, but the stories have shown they are now more about charging people high fines for failing to come to a complete stop as they make a right turn on red at intersections where right turns on red are allowed,” Mendoza said.

Mendoza said the comptroller’s office has been helping collect red-light fines since 2012 after the General Assembly allowed municipalities to use the comptroller’s offset system — which withholds state income tax refunds or other state payments — to collect traffic fines including red-light violations.

Historically, this system had been used

to collect child support, overpayment of benefits and other types of debt, the comptroller’s office said.

Mendoza said her office helped collect about \$11 million in revenue specific to red-light cameras last year.

The comptroller’s office said it does not collect red-light camera fines for Chicago, but a growing percentage of offset collections have involved violations from the city’s suburbs. Beginning Feb. 6, that arrangement, which Mendoza called “plain rotten,” will end. “It exploits taxpayers and especially those who struggle to pay the fines imposed, often the working poor.”

So far city officials in Chicago have not yet made any plans to kill off their own unpopular red light camera system, that has also experienced corruption and law breaking by city officials that covertly shortened yellow light times to below the state law’s three-second limit.

Beyond that, red-light cameras have been a source of public corruption and FBI scrutiny, the comptroller said.

When federal agents in Sept. 2019 raided the Statehouse office of former Sen Martin Sandoval, they were looking for information on SafeSpeed LLC, a politically-connected red-light camera company based in Chicago.

The company has been named in several other news reports regarding the ongoing federal corruption probe of several Statehouse insiders and local government officials, although its CEO denied any wrongdoing from the company in an interview with the Chicago Sun Times in October.

In a news release, Mendoza urged mu-

nicipalities to “take a second look at any contracts with red-light camera companies and determine if those contracts were procured properly in light of recent news reports and criminal investigations concerning the red-light camera industry and its relationship with government officials.”

Otherwise, she said, municipalities can contract with private debt collectors.

“We can’t unilaterally end this program, but we can certainly end our participation in anything that would take money away from people who can least afford to pay it,” Mendoza said.

Pressure on red-light camera operators continues to mount in the General Assembly as well.

State Sen. Emil Jones III, D-Chicago, advanced Senate Bill 1297 in a Senate committee during the fall veto session. That bill calls on the Illinois Dept. of Transportation to study “automated traffic law enforcement systems” and report back to lawmakers “on the overall operation, usage, permit process, and regulation” of the devices.

It did not, however, receive a vote from the full chamber.

Multiple bills providing for an outright ban of the devices — including Barrington Hills Rep. David Mcsweeney’s House Bill 323 and Naperville Rep. Grant Wehrli’s House Bill 3909 — have gained bipartisan support. Rep. Kambium Buckner of Chicago sponsored House Bill 3927 which would ban the devices as well.

Those bills await assignment to a substantial committee in the Illinois House.

Recycle those Christmas trees now

Chicago’s free Christmas tree recycling program is now underway at dozens of parks across the city.

The program runs through Jan. 18 and accepts only live/natural trees (no garland or wreaths) without flocking.

Because the trees are mulched, all tinsel, ornaments, lights, and stands must be removed. Plastic bags used for transport should also be removed before putting trees in the stalls.

The mulch that’s created from the program is used in local parks to protect and nourish plants and soil. Mulch is also now available to Chicago residents, free of charge, at six park locations.

Nearby tree recycling locations include Grant Park, 900 S. Columbus Dr., Walsh Park, 1722 N. Ashland Ave., Sheridan Park, 910 S. Aberdeen St., Lincoln Park (East of Cannon D.), Cannon Dr. at Fullerton Ave., and Margate Park, 4921 N. Marine Dr.

Free mulch is available on a first-come, first-served basis at Lincoln Park, Margate Park, North Park Village and Warren Park.

COST MORE from p. 1

tional service fee. Chicago’s move to sell out to a private venture group quickly became noted through the nation as a lesson in “worst practices” in negotiating the sale of a city-held asset.

Parking meter rates were last raised in 2013.

The higher ride share tax began on Jan. 6 for all trips on Transportation Network Providers (Uber, Lyft or Via). The tax will rise from 72¢ per trip to \$1.25 for a single trip and 65¢ for a shared trip.

Trips downtown during weekdays from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. will see an additional downtown surcharge of \$1.75 per trip for single rides and 60¢ per trip for shared rides.

LINCOLN YARDS from p. 1

will be made to Sterling Bay and City of Chicago departments on an advisory basis and implemented where possible throughout the duration of the anticipated 10-year construction timeline. A special charter for the CAC will provide a framework for the group’s membership and meeting protocols.

“The team at Sterling Bay is committed to making Lincoln Yards a community

that’s reflective of all those who call Chicago home,” said Sterling Bay CEO Andy Gloor. “We take this responsibility to heart and we’re excited to get this collaboration moving forward as we begin our work”

Encompassing 53 acres of vacant, former industrial land, Lincoln Yards is planned to include approximately 14 million square feet of new commercial and residential construction. The project is anticipated to generate 24,000 permanent and temporary jobs, 1,200 units of affordable housing, 21

acres of park space, and multiple infrastructure and transportation improvements.

As with any large redevelopment, the City will monitor Lincoln Yards for compliance with a comprehensive redevelopment agreement approved by City Council earlier this year.

“The formation of the CAC will provide important community input that the City and Sterling Bay will use and implement as plans for Lincoln Yards unfold,” said Ald. Hopkins.

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